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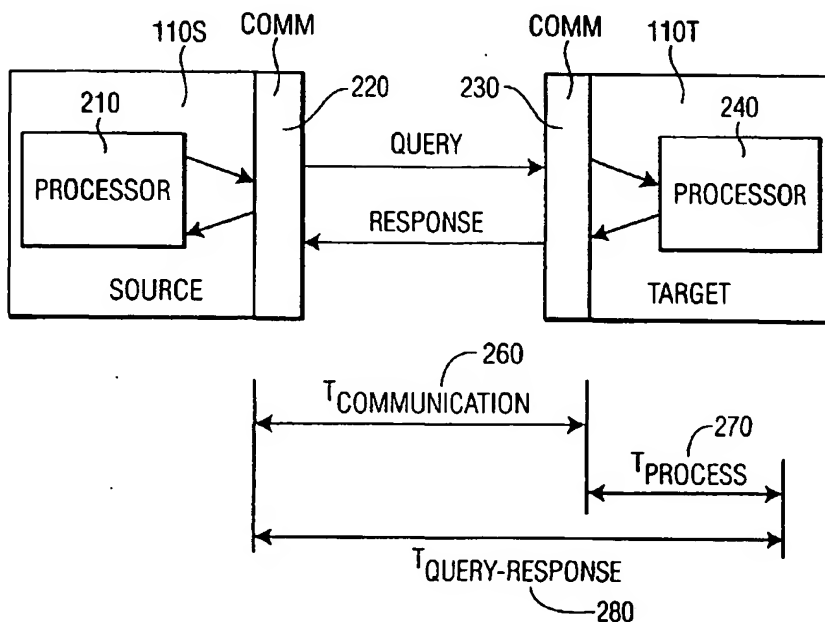
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(54) Title: USING TIMING SIGNALS TO DETERMINE PROXIMITY BETWEEN TWO NODES



(57) Abstract: A system and method facilitates a determination of proximity between nodes based on the communication time between the node. A source node communicates a query, or "ping", to a target node. The target node is configured to automatically send a response to the sender of such a query. The communication time is determined based on the time duration between the transmission of the query and receipt of the response at the source node. The communication time is compared to a threshold value to determine whether the target node is local or remote relative to the source node.

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